Paper Says Nixon Sold Lots at Profit

Cost 12/30/72

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla., Dec. 29 (AP) — A Miami attorney representing Pesident Nixon said today he "couldn't verify one way or the other" a report that Mr. Nixon made a $100,000 profit on the sale of two canal-front lots near his Florida home.

Thomas H. Wakefield, a lawyer who has represented Mr. Nixon in previous land dealings on the booming tropical island, said the sale price was $150,000.

The Miami Herald reported in today's editions that Mr. Nixon bought the property in 1967 and 1971, paying $30,000 for one piece and $23,100 for a second.

Wakefield said he had "no way of knowing" if the Herald figures, based on calculations of documentary tax stamps, were accurate.

At the White House, deputy press secretary Gerald L. Warren confimed that Mr. Nixon had sold the lots but said he didn't know the details as any profit.

Wakefield said the property was sold to Yonkers, N.Y., attorney William E. Griffin Jr., a personal acquaintance of the President.

Griffin reportedly has been considering building a home on the land, located near the entrance to Cape Florida State Park. Mr. Nixon's closely guarded villa is about 12 blocks to the northwest.

Griffin said he was undecided what to do with the property, adding,

Wakefield and Mr. Nixon's close friend, C. G. (Bebe) Rebozo, witnessed sale papers Wakefield said were signed by the President "sometime last week."